

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE TITLE

The title has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to more clearly indicate the nature of the invention to which the claims are directed, as required by the Examiner.

THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct some minor informalities of which the undersigned has become aware, including all of the informalities pointed out by the Examiner.

In addition, the Brief Summary of the Invention has been amended to reflect the amendments to the claims.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered, and that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the features of the present invention whereby the address storage unit of the image pickup device stores a plurality of addresses set by a user in

advance, and whereby the information obtaining unit obtains information based on the plurality of addresses. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to clarify the feature of the present invention whereby the image pickup device comprises an information storage unit configured to store the information obtained by the information storage unit, and whereby the information stored in the information storage unit is added to a stored picked up image. Independent method claim 7, moreover, has been amended along the lines of claim 1, and independent system claims 13 and 16 have been amended to clarify that the information obtained from the server unit is obtained based on a plurality of addresses set by a user in advance. See, for example, Figs. 8 and 9 and the disclosure in the specification at page 17, line 4 to page 19, line 9.

Still further, claim 2 has been amended to better accord with amended claim 1, and claims 1, 4, 5 and 7-19 have also been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and/or to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put the claims in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent. The informalities pointed out by the Examiner have all been corrected.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1, 3, 7, 13 and 16-18 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by JP 2000-287184 ("Ihara et al"), and claims 2, 4-6, 8-12, 14, 15 and 19 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of Ihara et al, taken singly or in combination with one or both of USP 6,917,968 ("Nakamura") and USP 6,449,617 ("Quinn et al"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 16, information is retrieved from a server unit for use by an image pickup device (or image recording unit), and the image pickup device adds the information to an image. In addition, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 16, the information is obtained through a network based on a plurality of addresses set by a user in advance. And according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 7, moreovoer, the obtained information is stored, and the stored information is added to a picked up image.

With the structure of the claimed present invention, it is possible for the user to set addresses in advance for obtaining information about a variety of subjects, such as news and weather. When the image pickup device is connected to the

network, it is then easy to obtain information from the pre-set addresses, and the information can then easily be added to picked up images.

By contrast, Ihara et al does not disclose, teach or suggest obtaining information from a plurality of addresses set in advance by a user. In fact, according to Ihara et al, a code (global 2D code) corresponding to a program is displayed on a television display unit (see Fig. 1). A personal computer with a digital camera is then used to read the global 2D code, and to supply the code to a management server to receive a URL of a home page relating to the television program. See the abstract of Ihara et al.

It is respectfully submitted that Ihara et al clearly does not disclose, teach or suggest obtaining information from a server based on a plurality of addresses set in advance by a user. Instead, according to Ihara et al the global 2D code is broadcast with a program from an "up-link center 98" which is shown in Fig. 1 of Ihara et al to perform broadcasting via satellite. Clearly, the broadcast global 2D code of Ihara et al does not correspond to a plurality of addresses set in advance by a user, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 16.

In addition, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 7, the information obtained

based on the plurality of addresses is stored, and the stored information is added to a picked up image. And it is respectfully submitted that Ihara et al also does not disclose obtaining information via a network, storing the obtained information, and adding the stored information to a picked up image, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 7.

It is respectfully submitted, moreover, that Nakamura and Quinn et al also do not disclose, teach or suggest the above described features of the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 16.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 16, as well as each of amended claims 2 and 4-5, 8-12, 14-15 and 17-19 respectively depending therefrom, all clearly patentably distinguish over Ihara et al, taken singly or in combination with any of the other prior art references of record, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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